**Criminal cases pending against employees of Allahabad Bank**

1198. SHRI VEER SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the criminal/civil cases pending with the police/courts against the employees of Allahabad Bank during the last three years;

(b) whether these cases involve fraud, cheating and acts of misappropriation;

(c) if so, the details of such employees; and

(d) what action is proposed/likely to be taken against such guilty employees under service and conduct rules?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (d) Allahabad Bank has reported 40, 7 and 6 criminal cases pending respectively during 2002, 2003 and 2004. Out of these 53 cases, 22 related to frauds, 1 to cheating 3 to misappropriation and 27 related to advances irregularities. 53 employees were involved in these cases and in addition eight *suo-moto* traps were . laid against eight employees. Appropriate action, commensurate with the gravity of misconduct, is taken under the relevant service and conduct rules against the guilty employees.

**Electrification of rural households**

1199. SHRI TARINI KANTA ROY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a scheme for coverage of hundred thousands villages by 2007 and providing access to electricity to all rural households is being examined by his Ministry; and

(b) if so, the present status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) No, Sir. (b) Does not arise.

**Higher interest rate on savings**

1200. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Public Provident Fund is maintained only in the post offices and branches of State Bank of India;

(b) whether higher rates of interest on savings of senior citizens has recently been allowed to those who held accounts in Post Offices and not in the SBI; and